

The board of education believes that the education of children is an on-going cooperative partnership between the home and the school. Parents are their children's first teachers; therefore, the continued involvement of parents in the educational process is most important in fostering and improving educational achievement. The Madison County Schools will strive to support parents and provide parents with opportunities to become involved in the programs offered by the Title I program.

**A. PURPOSE AND OPERATION OF TITLE I PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Title I program is to provide instructional activities and supportive services over and above those provided by the regular school program for eligible economically disadvantaged students. Students will be selected to receive Title I services based on objective criteria that are consistent with federal and state requirements, such as standardized test scores, teacher judgment, results of pre-school screening and home-school surveys.

Qualified Title I schools will operate as schoolwide programs or targeted assisted programs based upon federal eligibility criteria. Schoolwide programs will utilize a comprehensive school improvement process enabling schools to serve all students in the school. Targeted assisted programs will provide services to eligible students in the school having the greatest need for special assistance.

**B. ANNUAL MEETING**

Each year, Title I parents will be invited to an annual meeting at which time parental rights will be explained, programs and activities provided with Title I funds will be discussed, and input will be solicited. In addition, all parents will have an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the Title I programs and the parental involvement policies and plans. Data collected from these findings will be used to revise Title I programs and parent involvement plans.

**C. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT EFFORTS**

The board believes that the involvement of Title I parents in the design and implementation of the Title I program will increase the effectiveness of the program and contribute significantly to the success of the children. The Title I staff and all school district personnel will strive to involve parents in activities throughout the school year.

In addition, the Madison County Public Schools will do the following:

- involve parents in the joint development of the Madison County Title I Program and the process of school review and improvement;
- provide coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement

activities that are designed to improve student academic achievement and school performance;

- coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies with parent involvement activities in other programs;
- with the involvement of parents, conduct an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Madison County parent involvement policies and program to determine current and future needs, and ensure that such policies are developed with, agreed upon with and distributed annually to parents of participating students;
- strive to eliminate barriers of parental participation by assisting parents who are disabled, economically-disadvantaged, have limited English proficiency or have other backgrounds or characteristics that may affect participation, including making a conscientious effort, to the extent practicable, to provide all written communication, including parental involvement policies, in a language that is spoken or read at home;
- provide assistance to parents of participating Title I children in understanding the state's testing standards, the assessments used, Title I requirements and all national, state and local standards and expectations;
- work with parents to design a parent/student/school staff compact that sets out respective responsibilities in striving to raise student achievement and explains how an effective home/school partnership will be developed and maintained;
- with the assistance of parents, ensure that teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff are educated in the value of parents as partners in the educational process;
- distribute to parents information on expected student proficiency levels for their child and the school's academic performance, and provide assistance on how parents can monitor their child's progress and work with educators to improve achievement;
- coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs with pre-school programs and conduct other activities in the community that encourage and support parents to more fully participate in the education of their child.
- strengthen the partnership with agencies, businesses and programs that operate in the community; and
- ensure that parents are always involved in the schools' activities, including being a part of each school's leadership team.

Legal References: *No Child Left Behind Act*, Public Law 107-110, 115 Stat. 1425-2094; 20 U.S.C. § 6311 et seq.; 20 U.S.C. § 6318; State Board Policy EEO-R-000

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 1310/4002), Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum Development (policy 3100)

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